

Appl. No. 10/565,507  
Amendment dated: October 22, 2009  
Reply to OA of: April 22, 2009

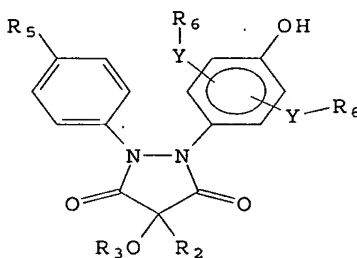
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1(cancelled).

2(cancelled).

3(currently amended). A compound ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ of formula III;

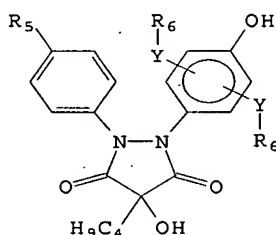


(III)

wherein ~~Y, R<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub> are described in claim 1 or claim 2 and R<sub>5</sub> is hydrogen or an alkyl, alkenyl group, OH, O-alkyl, O-acyl, SH, S-alkyl, S-acyl, halo, or amino group~~ one Y group is S and the other is either H (in which case only one R<sub>6</sub> group is present) or S, R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> organic group attached by a carbon atom, R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen or is a hydroxyl or thiol protecting group, R<sub>5</sub> is hydrogen or an alkyl, alkenyl group, OH, O-alkyl, O-acyl, SH, S-alkyl, S-acyl, halo, or amino group and and R<sub>6</sub> is, independently, an organic group of molecular weight up to around 500 amu.

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4(currently amended). A compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 of formula IV, or a salt thereof;



(IV)

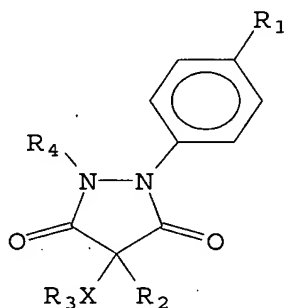
wherein  $R_5$  is hydrogen or OH and each  $R_6$  is, independently, a cysteine or a glutathione moiety attached via the sulphur atom thereof.

5(currently amended). A compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein both Y- $R_6$  groups are S- $R_6$ .

6(currently amended). A compound of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein the two Y groups are ortho to the OH group  $R_4$ .

7(currently amended). A compound of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein one Y group is ortho to group  $R_1$  and one Y group is meta to the OH group  $R_4$ .

8(currently amended). A compound formed by reaction of a thiol ( $R_6$ -SH) with a starting material of formula II

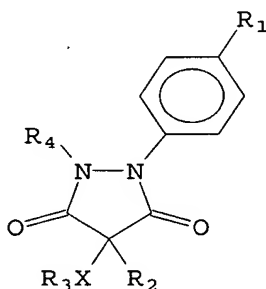


(II)

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wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_6$  and  $X$  are as defined in ~~claim 1~~claim 3 or protected derivatives or precursors thereof.

9(currently amended). A method for the synthesis of a compound of claim 3 said method comprising reaction of a thiol ( $R_6$ -SH) with a starting material of formula II.



(II)

wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_6$  and  $X$  are as defined in any of ~~claim 1~~claim 3, or protected derivatives or precursors thereof.

10(currently amended). A method of treatment of a mammalian subject comprising administering a compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3.

11(currently amended). A method for the for treatment, prevention or control of a viral, autoimmune, neoplastic, inflammatory and/or allergic condition, said method comprising administration of a compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3.

12(currently amended). A method of tonic treatment of an aging mammalian subject, or a subject suffering from the aftereffects of infection, disease or treatment, said method comprising administration of a compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3.

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13(currently amended). A compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3 for use in therapy.

14(cancelled).

15(currently amended). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, carrier or diluent.

16(currently amended). A functional or fortified food comprising a compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3 formulated in an edible food or potable beverage product.

17(new). A compound as claimed in claim 6, wherein R<sub>5</sub> is hydrogen.